



Canal &
River Trust

PRESS RELEASE

26 January

'Plastic fishing' event clears litter in Docklands

Over 30 volunteers helped to clean up the water space in Docklands this week, as part of an event run by the Canal & River Trust – the charity that cares for the water.

Volunteers included pupils from Canary Wharf College, who collected litter from along the water's edge. Cans, food wrappers, a trolley covered in mussels and an iron were among the items found.

The team then got onboard Poly-Mer, a boat built out of 8,000 plastic bottles by local organisation HubbubUK. Skippered by Paul Brew from City Sailing, the volunteers spent the afternoon 'plastic fishing' in South Dock. They collected eight buckets of litter from the water, including plastic bags and a hard hat.

Ross Fogden, Canal & River Trust volunteer leader, said: "We're really grateful to all the volunteers who helped us on the day, both our regulars and the pupils from the college. A big thanks go to the team from HubbubUK for lending us their amazing boat, and Paul from City Sailing for skippering it for us."

"It's really important to keep the water in Docklands clean and as a charity we rely on local people giving up their time to help us. The issue of litter and plastic waste is rightly high on the agenda at the moment, plastic in the docks and river today could end up in the seas tomorrow, so to be able to have such a productive day is really positive. We'll be holding events throughout the year, so I'd encourage anyone keen to help out to get in touch with us."

For more information about the Canal & River Trust, including how to volunteer or donate, visit canalrivertrust.org.uk

To find out more about HubbubUK go to <https://www.hubbub.org.uk/> and City Sailing at <http://www.citysailing.com/>

Ends

Notes to editors

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The Canal & River Trust is the guardian of 2,000 miles of historic waterways across England and Wales, caring for the nation's third largest collection of listed structures, as well as museums, archives, and hundreds of important wildlife sites.

We believe that *living waterways transform places and enrich lives* and our role is to make sure there is always a place on your doorstep where you can escape the pressures of everyday life, stretch your legs and simply feel closer to nature.

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